



Clean & Green Program for Charity Car Washes



Get your car clean and keep
Edmonds green at the same
time!



Where Does the Soapy Water and Rinse Water Go?

Car washwater and rinse water contains a mixture of detergents, oils, and heavy metals. If this wash water flows along the street, it can enter a storm drain, and then flow to Edmonds' streams and lakes or directly into Puget Sound. This soapy, polluted water is untreated and can kill aquatic plants and animals.



What is a Storm Drain?

A storm drain, pictured below, is the entrance to a system of underground pipes that collects and carries water from streets and parking lots, and discharges it **untreated** into Puget Sound, and our lakes, streams and wetlands.



Is Car Washing Illegal?

No! Washing your car is **not** illegal.

But discharge of anything but clean stormwater runoff into the storm drain is technically illegal, per Edmonds Community Development Code Chapter 7.200.

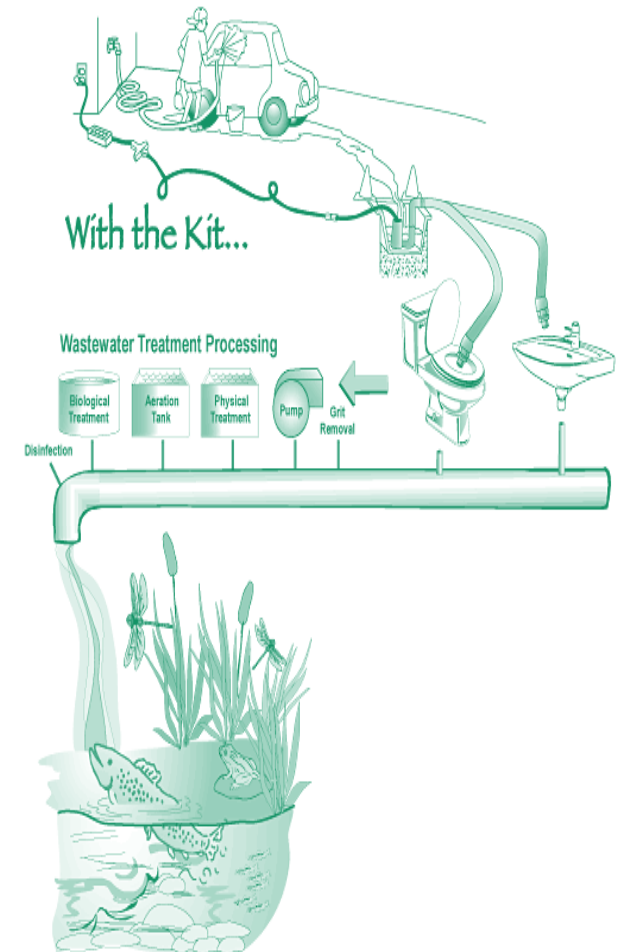


To Keep Our Water Clean, Use a Car Wash Kit.

The City of Edmonds has a SudSafe Car Wash Kit available to community and religious groups, and schools to encourage environmentally-friendly car wash event.

Each kit has all the equipment you'll need - hoses, safety cones, and a basin to capture and divert the soapy water away from the storm drain and onto a lawn (or other vegetated area) or into a sink that drains to the wastewater treatment system.

Organizers can contact the stormwater technician at the City of Edmonds Engineering Division **(425) 771-0220** to reserve a kit (first come, first served).





Site Requirements

To use the SudSafe Car Wash Kit, the following is required at the site:

- Electric power within 100 feet of the wash area.
- Grass, gravel, or other vegetated area within 100 feet of the wash area, or a
- Sink or toilet that leads to the sewer system within 100 feet of the wash area.




Report Violators!

If you suspect a spill or see someone pouring waste down a storm drain, including car wash and rinse water, call the City's Illicit Discharge Hotline **(425) 771-0235** or the Washington Department of Ecology at 1-800-258-5990.



Other Ways to Wash Your Car and Keep Edmonds Clean

- Use a commercial car wash facility that discharges its' water to the sewer system or recycles it. 
- When washing your car at home, wash it on the lawn or other vegetated area to keep the water out of the storm drain. Mild, soapy water won't hurt your lawn - it will actually water it! In addition:
 - ▶ Use a shut-off nozzle on your hose to conserve water.
 - ▶ Choose a soap that is biodegradable, low in phosphates, and contains no chlorine, bleach, nitrates, or ammonia. Avoid labels with Caution, Danger or Warning.
 - ▶ Use a small amount of soap! You don't need 4" of suds.
- Fund-raise by selling coupons for local commercial car washes. Contact the Puget Sound Car Wash Association at 1-800-509-WASH (9274) for information.



Clean & Green Car Wash Program

For More Information:

Contact the City of Edmonds Engineering Division at **(425) 771-0220 x1322** or michael.cawrse@edmondswa.gov

